

REMARKS

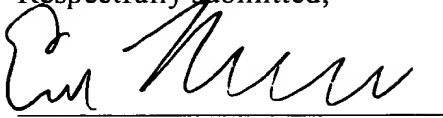
Claims 1-2,10,12-13,17-18 and 20-21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obviated by Efromson (US 2538955). Claim 11 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obviated by Efromson (US 2538955) in view of Nowak (US 5116030).

The claims have been rejected based on the combination of Efromson (US 2538955) mount of FIG.1-3 with the FIG.4 feature where the inner member has a larger diameter than the opening of the shroud. As referenced in the Office Action, Efromson (US 2538955) teaches at column 5, lines 1-5 “making the flange 25 of greater diameter than the openings left in the end members” of FIG. 4.

Such proposed combination would result in forming a large diameter flange at the inner member 14 conical base. With such a proposed combination the inner member 14 would, extend through the “outré plate member 10 having openings 11 by which it is secured to a supported or supporting member” (column 4, lines 16-18). Applicants have amended the claims to specifically claim that the outer member comprises a planar base that defines a base plane and that the inner member does not extend through the outer member base plane and that the outer member forms a chamber with the support structure when attached there to with the inner member seat contained in the chamber (as previously claimed in dependent claim 17). The amended claims are clearly not rendered obvious in that Efromson (US 2538955) clearly teaches away from such configurations in that its inner member 14 extends through the outer member base plane of metal outer plate member 10.

In view of the teachings of Efromson (US 2538955) and the presently amended claims Applicants respectfully contend that the rejections must be withdrawn, and respectfully request allowance of the amended claims.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. Murphy III", written over a horizontal line.

Edward F. Murphy III

Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 38,251
919-468-5979 ext. 6205
Lord Corporation
111 Lord Drive
Cary, North Carolina 27502